



Administrative Policies and Procedures: 21.17

Subject:	School Internet Safety
Authority:	Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)
Standards:	None
Application:	All Department of Children's Services Employees and Youth at Youth Development Centers and DCS Group Homes with Student Internet Access

Policy Statement:

The Department of Children's Services shall comply with the [Children's Internet Protection Act \(CIPA\)](#) [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)] as required for any school or library that receives funding support for internet access by preventing:

1. User access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
2. Unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; and
3. Unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors.

Purpose:

To establish specific guidelines for youth that have access the internet in DCS Youth Development Centers and DCS Group Homes in compliance with the *CIPA*. (Supplemental to policy [7.2, Acceptable Use, Network Access Rights and Obligations](#).)

Procedures:

A. Access to inappropriate material

To the extent practical, **technology protection measures** or "Internet filters" shall be used to block or filter the Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information as outlined below.

1. Specifically, as required by the *CIPA*, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed **harmful to minors**.
2. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

B. Inappropriate network usage	<p>To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Department of Children's Services online school computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the <i>CIPA</i>, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and 2. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors. 3. Additional activities which are considered inappropriate usage of the network include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Vandalism and harassment b) Copyright violation and plagiarism c) Downloading content, such as music, except when specifically permitted for educational purposes d) Any electronic communications which are not specifically authorized by DCS school administrators.
C. Supervision, monitoring and establishment of local procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It shall be the responsibility of all members of the YDC and/or Group Home staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online school computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the <i>CIPA</i>. 2. It shall be the responsibility of the school principal or other designated staff to implement local procedures for disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures.
D. Organizational responsibility and privacy	<p>The Department of Children's Services does not guarantee that any protection measures used to block or filter the Internet, other forms of electronic communications, or access to inappropriate information ensures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Network functionality or accuracy of information; 2. The effectiveness of internet filtering; or 3. The privacy of system users.

Forms:	None
Collateral documents:	<u>7.2, Acceptable Use, Network Access Rights and Obligations</u>